

# Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 29 December 2006



### **Daily Highlights**

- The U.S. Border Patrol said on Thursday, December 28, that arrests of illegal immigrants along the U.S.–Mexican border have dropped by more than a third since National Guard troops started helping with border security. (See item\_11)
- The Department of Homeland Security has designated the state funeral for former President Gerald R. Ford as a National Special Security Event; the U.S Secret Service will assume its legally mandated role as the lead federal agency for the design and implementation of the operational security plan. (See item 23)

### DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Fast Jump

Production Industries: <u>Energy</u>; <u>Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials</u>; <u>Defense Industrial Base</u>
Service Industries: <u>Banking and Finance</u>; <u>Transportation and Border Security</u>; <u>Postal and Shipping</u>

Sustenance and Health: Agriculture; Food; Water; Public Health

Federal and State: Government: Emergency Services

IT and Cyber: Information Technology and Telecommunications; Internet Alert Dashboard

Other: Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons; General; DHS Daily Report Contact

**Information** 

## **Energy Sector**

**Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: ELEVATED, Cyber: ELEVATED** 

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <a href="http://www.esisac.com">http://www.esisac.com</a>]

1. December 28, Bay City News (CA) — Eight thousand remain without power in Bay Area. High winds that caused many Pacific Gas and Electric Co. customers to go without power Tuesday, December 26, subsided Thursday morning, and power was restored to most customers, although some Bay Area residents remain without power, according to spokesperson Paul Moreno. There are still about 8,000 customers without power in the entire Bay Area, with 2,600 in the South Bay, 3,300 in San Mateo County and 250 in San Francisco, Moreno said. About 1,700 are without power in the North Bay, with the remaining customers without power

in the East Bay. Since Tuesday, more than 300,000 customers lost power, but roughly 292,000 of those customers have had power restored. Most of those without power are due to "fresh outages caused by high winds throughout this evening," Moreno said.

Source: http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/baycitynews/a/2 006/12/28/outages28.DTL&feed=rss.bayarea

2. December 28, Houston Chronicle — Weather hinders efforts to plug oil leak in Gulf. Heavy weather has kept divers from plugging a ruptured undersea pipeline about 30 miles southeast of Galveston, TX, that has leaked about 43,000 gallons of light crude oil into the Gulf of Mexico, the U.S. Coast Guard said. Divers found a clean break in the 14–inch diameter pipeline and plugged the landward side of the rupture with rubber buoys, but worsening sea conditions forced the divers to stop before they could plug the source of the leak on the seaward side, Lt. Mark Molavi said. The landward side of the break already had been drained of oil, but the seaward side continues to leak about 500 gallons per day, Molavi said. Repair operations were suspended until the seas calm, which may not be until Sunday, he said. An estimated 21,000 gallons of oil spewed into the Gulf on Sunday, December 24, before a drop in pressure was detected and the pipeline was shut down. Officials revised the total Wednesday, saying 42,500 gallons had leaked.

Source: http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/chronicle/4429761.html

3. December 28, Buffalo News (NY) — National Fuel's gas pipeline project wins approval of U.S. regulators. National Fuel Gas Co.'s plan to build a 78-mile extension of its Empire State Pipeline has won approval from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), clearing a major hurdle for the \$144 million project. The project remains on schedule to begin service in November 2008. Regulators approved the Empire State Pipeline extension along with three other complementary pipeline projects, including the Millennium Pipeline from the Southern Tier to the New York City area, that will add a total of 265 miles of pipelines in New York and Connecticut at a cost of \$1.04 billion. The Empire State Pipeline extension would link it with the Millennium Pipeline project that will stretch from Corning to Ramapo, NY. National Fuel officials view the extension of the Empire State Pipeline, which stretches between Buffalo and Syracuse, as a significant means of transporting natural gas from western Canada to the gas—hungry New York City area. The extension would boost the Empire State Pipeline's existing capacity by 50 percent. The underground extension will transport at least 250 million cubic feet of natural gas per day, with KeySpan Energy, a New York City utility, planning to use at least 60 percent of that.

Source: http://www.buffalonews.com/editorial/20061228/1065685.asp

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# **Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector**

**4.** December 27, KETV (NE) — Ammonia leak at Tyson plant prompts evacuation. An ammonia leak caused several hundred people to evacuate an Omaha, NE, business Wednesday, December 27. Rescue crews were called to the Tyson Foods plant near 132nd and Q streets. NewsWatch 7's crew said several people were transported to the hospital with unknown injuries. About 200 people were working in the building at the time of the evacuation. The surrounding area around 132nd Street was closed for several hours.

Source: http://www.ketv.com/newsarchive/10614931/detail.html

5. December 27, Associated Press — Liquid nitrogen leaks from truck after collision. An 18-wheel truck carrying liquid nitrogen collided Wednesday, December 27, with a car that ran a stop sign, creating a potentially explosive situation near Clinton, NC. But officials said state highway maintenance workers poured sand over the mixture of liquid nitrogen and diesel fuel, preventing problems. The accident happened at the intersection of U.S. 421 and Church Road. The roads have reopened after being closed for several hours. In addition, a few homes were evacuated.

Source: <a href="http://www.wfmynews2.com/news/mostpopular/article.aspx?storyid=77264&provider=top">http://www.wfmynews2.com/news/mostpopular/article.aspx?storyid=77264&provider=top</a>

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### **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

6. January 01, National Defense — Autonomous Naval vessels may have growth potential.

Just as drones have proliferated in the skies, Navy and industry officials say unmanned systems also will take to the world's waterways in greater numbers. "I think there's a lot of growth potential," Capt. Paul Ims, program manager of unmanned maritime systems, tells National Defense. With a variety of unmanned platforms set to play a large role in the littoral combat ship fleet in the next several years, the sea service is working on a roadmap for unmanned surface vehicles. "The roadmap is really a vision document. It lays out the missions that the Navy intends to pursue in unmanned surface vehicles, and what are the capabilities, what are the technologies that we need to develop," Ims says. "We're looking at where we want to be in 2015, 2020 with this capability." As the Navy is reducing the size of ship crews, it is using new technologies to enable an individual sailor to do more, says Ims. "That's one of the real promises of unmanned surface vehicles."

Source: <a href="http://www.nationaldefensemagazine.org/issues/2007/January/A reAutonomous.htm">http://www.nationaldefensemagazine.org/issues/2007/January/A reAutonomous.htm</a>

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# **Banking and Finance Sector**

- 7. December 27, Associated Press Personal information at Utah school made public. Authorities at Utah Valley State College have released notification that the personal information of about 15,000 people who taught or took distance—learning classes at the school was somehow found by Yahoo's search engine and was available online for more than a month. The school says there's no evidence that any of the information had been stolen, but is encouraging people to check their bank accounts and credit records.

  Source: <a href="http://www.firstcoastnews.com/tech/news/news-article.aspx?st.oryid=72142">http://www.firstcoastnews.com/tech/news/news-article.aspx?st.oryid=72142</a>
- **8.** December 27, Times (IN) Counterfeit money circulated along U.S. 30. Counterfeit money was reported at two locations along Indiana's U.S. 30 retail corridor the past weekend. Taco Bell reported two counterfeit \$10 bills passed at the drive—through window on Saturday, December 23, according to Hobart, IN, police Lt. Leo Finnerty. On Sunday, three counterfeit

\$20 bills were reported at Maggie Moo Ice Cream at Westfield Southlake mall, Finnerty said. The bills did not have a security strip and were not the right color or length, Finnerty said. There have been more than a dozen counterfeit currency reports this year, many of which have centered on the U.S. 30 corridor. In some instances, the money is printed from a laser printer. In others, lower denomination bills are bleached and reprinted as a higher denomination. Source: <a href="http://www.nwitimes.com/articles/2006/12/27/news/lake\_county/89947c0dd57a3be686257251000011b0.txt">http://www.nwitimes.com/articles/2006/12/27/news/lake\_county/89947c0dd57a3be686257251000011b0.txt</a>

9. December 27, Realty Times — Organized crime finding mortgage fraud. The latest statistics from the FBI confirm that mortgage fraud is on the upswing. "We can't find a chart that doesn't show up in a big way," special agent Bill Stern said. Even worse news, he said, is that the trend is moving away from rogue individuals who pull off the scams and toward members of organized crime. "Mortgage fraud is now a criminal enterprise that puts dollars in the hands of people who also are involved in such other crimes as drugs, murders and gangs," Stern said. As of early this month, the number of suspicious activity reports concerning mortgage fraud is up 62 percent from a year earlier. That, he said, "is a stark increase" compared to those alleging commercial loan fraud and false statements. Also up is the number of pending cases, the number of charges and convictions and the amount of cases in which losses against financial institutions, the government and individuals exceed \$1 million, Stern reported.

Source: http://realtytimes.com/rtcpages/20061227 mortfraudcrime.htm

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# **Transportation and Border Security Sector**

- 10. December 28, Federal Computer Week FAA to block wireless activity near agency networks. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has signed a contract to install a nationwide wireless intrusion—detection system at air traffic control centers, FAA training centers and the organization's headquarters, according to FAA officials. The installation is designed to keep out hackers and other unauthorized users who try setting up a rogue wireless access point to gain entry into an FAA local—area network at one of the agency's facilities. Without such security, outsiders could potentially access the FAA's proprietary information. A May 2005 Government Accountability Office report, "Information Security: Federal Agencies Need to Improve Controls over Wireless Networks," prompted FAA officials to draft an internal order about wireless activity, said John Benson, deputy director at the FAA Office of the Assistant Administrator for Information Services and Chief Information Officer. Source: <a href="http://www.fcw.com/article96987-12-28-06-Web">http://www.fcw.com/article96987-12-28-06-Web</a>
- 11. December 28, Associated Press Border arrests down; National Guard praised. Arrests of illegal immigrants along the U.S.—Mexican border have dropped by more than a third since U.S. National Guard troops started helping with border security, the U.S. Border Patrol said Thursday, December 28. Border Patrol agents arrested more than 149,000 fewer people from the start of July through November. That's down 34 percent from the same period last year, according to monthly figures provided by a Border Patrol spokesperson. If the downward trend continues, it would be the first sustained decrease in illegal immigrant arrests since shortly after the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. National Guard troops started arriving along the border in mid–June, and 6,000 were in place by August.

Source: <a href="http://www.kfoxtv.com/politics/10623066/detail.html">http://www.kfoxtv.com/politics/10623066/detail.html</a>

- 12. December 28, Herald Net (WA) Sounder commuter rail out of service after slides. The Sound Transit's Sounder commuter rail service has been down 16 days this year because of mudslides on tracks. A mudslide knocked out Sounder's Everett—to—Seattle commuter rail service Wednesday, December 27, for what is believed to be the 10th time this calendar year. "This is the 15th day this year that service has been interrupted by mudslides and tomorrow will be the 16th," Bruce Gray, a Sound Transit spokesperson, said on Wednesday. One mudslide washed three feet of mud over both tracks early Wednesday morning in north Seattle, and several other slides knocked trees and mud onto the tracks at several locations between Everett and Seattle, said Gus Melonas, a spokesperson for Burlington Northern Santa Fe. Sounder service can't be restored until at least Friday morning, December 29, because passenger trains aren't allowed to run until 48 hours after a mudslide is cleaned up, Gray said. The tracks must be closed that long so they can be tested to make sure they're safe. The rule does not apply to freight trains. Gray said the number of Sounder train trips lost to mudslides should decrease when the railroad finishes adding a second track along much of the Everett—to—Seattle route. Source: <a href="http://heraldnet.com/stories/06/12/28/100loc\_alsounder001.cfm">http://heraldnet.com/stories/06/12/28/100loc\_alsounder001.cfm</a>
- 13. December 28, CNN Unruly flier slaps undercover air marshal. A US Airways passenger faced charges of interfering with a flight crew Thursday, December 28, after he apparently unknowingly slapped an undercover federal air marshal, said an official familiar with the case. The man, who'd been drinking liquor, threw a mid–air temper tantrum Wednesday night after attendants refused to serve him any more alcohol during his flight from Washington's Reagan National Airport to Fort Myers, FL, the official said. The passenger then slapped a fellow passenger, who happened to be an undercover air marshal assigned to the flight, said the official. The air marshal detained the man for the remainder of the flight and arrested him after the aircraft arrived in Fort Myers. The man will be charged with interfering with a flight crew. Source: <a href="http://www.cnn.com/2006/US/12/28/unruly.passenger/index.html">http://www.cnn.com/2006/US/12/28/unruly.passenger/index.html</a>

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# **Postal and Shipping Sector**

14. December 27, Contra Costa Times (CA) — Post office helps with passports. On January 23, new security requirements will mean Americans will no longer be able to re—enter the country with only a driver's license and a birth certificate. Some 72 million of America's 300 million residents have U.S. passports, according to Department of State figures, making the United States one of the few developed nations in which a small minority has applied for the internationally recognized travel identification. With the new rules, would—be travelers have been thronging Bay Area post offices in recent months to apply for passports, said Gus Ruiz, spokesperson for the U.S. Postal Service's Bay–Valley District. To help accommodate the extra customers, the postal service has in the past four months offered rotating passport fairs on Saturdays at facilities in the region, Ruiz said. "In Marina (near Monterey)," he said, "we had people lined out the door waiting to come in to apply to get a passport." The postal service plans to offer Saturday hours at selected Bay Area post offices as the deadline approaches, Ruiz said.

Source: http://www.contracostatimes.com/mld/cctimes/16326744.htm

# **Agriculture Sector**

- **15.** *December* **28**, *USAgNet* **Dairy Farmers of America launch security program.** The Dairy Farmers of America (DFA) has started a program designed to help its members increase on–farm security. The program lets members better protect their animals and the milk they produce from accidental or intentional contamination. The DFA said it developed the program for members who want the latest industry updates, techniques, tools and strategies for on–farm biosecurity; product and farm safety; and family and farm emergency action plans. Source: <a href="http://www.usagnet.com/story-national.php?Id=2721&yr=2006">http://www.usagnet.com/story-national.php?Id=2721&yr=2006</a>
- **16.** December 28, Roanoke Times (VA) **Deer tests positive for CWD.** A two and one—half—year old buck killed by a hunter during the firearm's season in Hampshire County, WV, has tested positive for chronic wasting disease (CWD). The deer was killed in an area located within close proximity to where nine other deer have been detected with CWD since 2005. The area is not far from the Virginia border. The newest case was the only CWD—positive deer among 1,354 animals checked by officials that were killed by hunters in Hampshire County. Across the border, Virginia officials have been testing deer for CWD but none has been detected. CWD information: <a href="http://www.cwd-info.org/">http://www.cwd-info.org/</a>

Source: <a href="http://www.roanoke.com/outdoors/billcochran/field/wb/wb/xp-97505">http://www.roanoke.com/outdoors/billcochran/field/wb/wb/xp-97505</a>

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### **Food Sector**

- 17. December 28, Wisconsin Ag Connection U.S. beef exports to Japan approved. The Japanese Government has said it will lift a ban on beef shipments from Colorado-based Swift & Co. A Kyodo News report says joint investigations by the Japanese farm and health ministries found no problems with beef exports from U.S. meatpacking plants, including Swift. In October, a beef shipment from Swift contained an internal organ that did not match the certification issued by the U.S. government.
  - Source: <a href="http://www.wisconsinagconnection.com/story-national.php?Id=2.715&yr=2006">http://www.wisconsinagconnection.com/story-national.php?Id=2.715&yr=2006</a>
- **18.** December 28, U.S. Food and Drug Administration FDA issues draft documents on the safety of animal clones. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Thursday, December 28, issued three documents on the safety of animal cloning a draft risk assessment; a proposed risk management plan; and a draft guidance for industry. The draft risk assessment finds that meat and milk from clones of adult cattle, pigs and goats, and their offspring, are as safe to eat as food from conventionally bred animals. The draft risk assessment presents an overview of assisted reproductive methods widely used in animal agriculture, the extensive scientific information available on animal health and food consumption risks, and draws science—based conclusions. The proposed risk management plan addresses risks to animal health and potential remaining uncertainties associated with feed and food from animal clones and their offspring. The draft guidance for industry addresses the use of food and feed products

derived from clones and their offspring. The guidance is directed at clone producers, livestock breeders, and farmers and ranchers purchasing clones. It provides the agency's current thinking on use of clones and their offspring in human food or animal feed.

FDA documents: <a href="http://www.fda.gov/cvm/CloneRiskAssessment.htm">http://www.fda.gov/cvm/CloneRiskAssessment.htm</a> Source: <a href="http://www.fda.gov/bbs/topics/NEWS/2006/NEW01541.html">http://www.fda.gov/bbs/topics/NEWS/2006/NEW01541.html</a>

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# **Water Sector**

**19.** December 28, Kentucky Post — Report confirms miles of polluted rivers. Kentucky has more than 6,163 miles and 98,300 acres of impaired waterways or water bodies, a new report from the Kentucky Division of Water concludes. "Impaired" means that the waterways or water bodies are too polluted to safely support uses such as recreational swimming. "This should not be interpreted as a declining trend in water quality, but a reflection of increased monitoring," Division of Water Director David W. Morgan said. Most of the pollutants are running off the land in rainstorms rather than coming from a specific source, the report concludes.

Report: http://www.water.ky.gov/

Source: <a href="http://news.kypost.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20061228/N">http://news.kypost.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20061228/N</a>

EWS02/612280361/1014/NEWS02

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### **Public Health Sector**

20. December 28, Agence France-Presse — Third Vietnam province hit by bird flu outbreak.

Bird flu killed more than 400 ducks in Vietnam this week as the virus jumped to a third southern province, animal health authorities have said. "About 450 ducklings of between one and two months of age died in two communes of Long My district, Hau Giang province," said Nguyen Ba Thanh, director of the Can Tho regional animal health department Thursday, December 28. Vietnam and the United Nations last week launched a public awareness campaign on the risk of the H5N1 virus in the winter months and ahead of the mid–February Tet New Year festival when poultry consumption usually rises. Vietnam has reported no new human cases since November 2005 of the disease that killed 42 people in the country between 2003 and 2005, but animal outbreaks have now been reported in three provinces over the past week.

Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20061228/hl afp/healthfluvietnam 061228110542

21. December 28, USA TODAY — FDA gives green light to cyanide treatment. U.S. drug safety officials have approved an emergency treatment used in France for cyanide poisoning. Beginning in January, a kit called Cyanokit can be used by U.S. paramedics to treat cyanide poisoning, which poses a terrorist threat and could play a role in thousands of deaths each year from smoke inhalation. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved Cyanokit based on the French experience and on animal studies because of the danger that studying therapy for cyanide poisoning in humans poses to test subjects. Cyanide kills quickly. But current cyanide treatment — which involves the use of amyl nitrite, sodium nitrite and sodium thiosulfate — is

tricky, doctors say, because the fix can also kill. For that reason, doctors must be sure the culprit is cyanide. And the new Cyanokit allows medics to make an educated guess. Cyanide is considered a terrorist threat because it is not hard to get, says Donald Walsh, Chicago's assistant fire chief for Emergency Medical Services. Mine and metal workers have access to cyanide. Source: <a href="http://www.usatoday.com/news/health/2006-12-27-cyanide\_x.htm">http://www.usatoday.com/news/health/2006-12-27-cyanide\_x.htm</a>

**22.** December 27, San Diego Union—Tribune — **Two mice test positive for hantavirus.** Two wild mice trapped by county employees in Pine Valley, CA, tested positive for hantavirus — a virus that can spread to humans in the form of a rare and potentially fatal illness, a county vector official said Wednesday, December 27. The mice were caught several weeks ago in the wild, and a state lab confirmed the presence of the disease.

Hantavirus information: <a href="http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/diseases/hanta/hps/index.htm">http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/diseases/hanta/hps/index.htm</a>
Source: <a href="http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/metro/20061227-1501-hantavirus.html">http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/metro/20061227-1501-hantavirus.html</a>

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# **Government Sector**

23. December 28, Department of Homeland Security — DHS designates President Ford memorial service as National Special Security Event. The Department of Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff has designated the state funeral for former President Gerald R. Ford as a National Special Security Event (NSSE). A number of factors are taken into consideration when designating an event as a National Special Security Event, including anticipated attendance by dignitaries and the size and significance of the event. When an event is designated a NSSE, the U.S Secret Service assumes its legally mandated role as the lead federal agency for the design and implementation of the operational security plan. Federal resources will be deployed to maintain the level of security needed for the event and the area. The Secret Service is responsible for planning, directing, and executing federal security operations at designated NSSEs and, together with state and local law enforcement partners, develops the overall security plan. In the Washington, DC, area, the Metropolitan Police Department, the U.S. Capitol Police, the U.S. Park Police, and a number of other federal and local agencies will play an active role in securing this event.

Fact Sheet: National Special Security Events:

http://www.dhs.gov/xnews/releases/pr 1167323822753.shtm

Source: http://www.dhs.gov/xnews/releases/pr 1167323576041.shtm

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# **Emergency Services Sector**

**24.** December 28, University at Buffalo (NY) — Researchers to study storm's emergency response in New York. Researchers at the University at Buffalo (UB), NY, have been awarded a \$30,000 grant by the National Science Foundation to study the experiences of first and second emergency responders during Western New York's "October Surprise" snowstorm. The researchers will examine a critical issue in effective disaster mitigation: whether the functioning of emergency responders is impaired significantly when they are worried about their own safety

and the safety of their families. Western New York's unprecedented October 2006 snowstorm resulted in extensive devastation, with major portions of the region experiencing prolonged power outages. Yet, despite the widespread problems, pockets of the region remained unaffected. This resulted in a mix of first responders, some of whom were affected by the disaster either directly or indirectly (families and significant others) and some who were not affected.

Source: http://www.buffalo.edu/news/fast-execute.cgi/article-page.ht ml?article=83210009

25. December 27, Federal Emergency Management Agency — FEMA Preliminary Disaster Assessment Teams deployed to tornado-damaged Florida counties. At the request of the State of Florida, the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Preliminary Damage Assessment Team (PDA) members were deployed Wednesday morning, December 27, to Volusia and Pasco Counties which were struck by tornados on Christmas Day. Joint PDA teams, led by county emergency managers, include local and state officials as well as representatives of the Small Business Administration (SBA) and FEMA. The teams will visit and inspect damaged areas and document the findings. "This is a partnership effort designed to provide a clear picture of the extent and locations of damage to primary residences, businesses and infrastructure," said Scott R. Morris, director of FEMA's Florida Long-Term Recovery.

Source: http://www.fema.gov/news/newsrelease.fema?id=32546

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# **Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector**

26. December 28, IDG News Service — Internet access back in Asia after earthquake. Asia's Internet and telecommunication infrastructure showed signs of recovery Thursday, December 28, following service disruptions caused by a series of powerful earthquakes off Taiwan's southern coast earlier this week. A pair of powerful earthquakes rattled southern Taiwan within eight minutes of each other on Tuesday evening, local time, causing damage to undersea telecommunication cables. Taiwan's Central Weather Bureau said the first was a magnitude 6.7 quake and the second quake was slightly smaller, at magnitude 6.4. Repairing the cables will cost about \$1.5 million, Taiwan's Chunghwa Telecom Co. Ltd. said in a statement to the Taiwan Stock Exchange.

Source: http://www.infoworld.com/article/06/12/28/HNaccessbackinasia 1.html

27. December 27, eWeek — Report: Spamming soared in 2006. A report on spam by e-mail security firm Commtouch Software dubs 2006 the "Year of the Zombies." The study found that "zombies" can number up to eight million hosts globally on a given day. As a result, spam volume increased greatly in 2006, according to the report. "Spam outbreaks got bigger, faster and smarter during 2006," Amir Lev, president and chief technical officer for Commtouch, based in Netanya, Israel, said in a statement. "Innovative spammers quickly developed new techniques to bypass common anti-spam technologies and amassed huge zombie botnets. Outbreaks have become so fast, massive and sophisticated that most anti-spam solutions had great difficulty defending against them." Zombie activity, the report found, accounts for 85 percent of the spam circulating the Internet. Multi-wave image-spam outbreaks brought the spam bloat to 1.7 billion MB per day. eBay and PayPal remain top targets for fraud, their names

being used in 50 percent of all phishing attempts, the report said.

Report: http://www.commtouch.com/documents/Commtouch 2006 Spam Trend

s Year of the Zombies.pdf

Source: http://www.eweek.com/article2/0,1895,2077665,00.asp

### 28. December 27, eWeek — Level 3 Communications to buy SAVVIS CDN division. Level 3

Communications has announced plans to purchase the Content Delivery Network (CDN) services business of SAVVIS for \$135 million in cash, a move meant to enable the company to provide more rich media services via the Web. The deal is expected to close in the first quarter of 2007.

Source: http://www.eweek.com/article2/0,1895,2077542,00.asp

### 29. December 27, Tech Web — Chinese hackers launch new Office attack. A Microsoft

PowerPoint presentation circulating via e-mail is the latest example of a 2006 trend in which paid-for-hire Chinese hackers target Western businesses with malicious Office documents, a security researcher said Wednesday, December 27. The newest threat, said Ken Dunham, director of VeriSign iDefense's rapid response team, hides within an apparently innocent PowerPoint slide show, "Christmas+Blessing-4.ppt," which is attached to an e-mail message. The PowerPoint file, which circulated sans exploits last year around Christmas, has been making the rounds since Sunday. "The reality is that this is a very popular file," said Dunham, "and poorly detected by most antivirus scanners." More important is that Christmas+Blessing-4 shares characteristics with the Office document-based attacks that began seven months ago.

"This is very similar to other Office attacks from May and June," Dunham said. "It's a targeted attack, this time [against a company] in the public utility sector."

Source: <a href="http://www.techweb.com/showArticle.jhtml;jsessionid=0H10B415">http://www.techweb.com/showArticle.jhtml;jsessionid=0H10B415</a> G23DUOSNDLPSKH0CJUNN2JVN?articleId=196702154

### **Internet Alert Dashboard**

Current Port Attacks	
<b>Top 10</b>	6881 (bittorrent), 1026 (win-rpc), 4662 (eDonkey2000), 2967
Target Ports	(ssc-agent), 4672 (eMule), 25 (smtp), 1433 (ms-sql-s), 445
Ports	(microsoft–ds), 1027 (icq), 113 (auth)
	Source: http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html; Internet Storm Center

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at <a href="mailto:soc@us-cert.gov">soc@us-cert.gov</a> or visit their Website: <a href="mailto:www.us-cert.gov">www.us-cert.gov</a>.

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <a href="https://www.it-isac.org/">https://www.it-isac.org/</a>.

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### Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons Sector

Nothing to report.

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### **General Sector**

30. December 28, Associated Press — Storm threatens Colorado with new blizzard. Still recovering from last week's blizzard, Colorado cities are braced for another storm that could bring more than a foot of snow and high winds to the state. The National Weather Service said a storm, expected Thursday, December 28, could pack gusts up to 45 mph, whipping the heavy snow into blinding whiteouts. Denver could get 18 inches of snow by Friday morning, and up to two and one—half feet were forecast for the foothills, the weather service said. Weather Service forecasters said flights from Denver's airport could be delayed or even canceled but cautioned the storm's path and intensity were difficult to predict Crews were still trying to clear away ice and hard—packed snow from last week's storm. "Believe it or not, the first storm is not over for us," said Saleem Khattak, streets manager for Colorado Springs' Public Works Department. Last week's storm dumped up to three and one—half feet of snow on some parts of the state, shutting down highways, schools, businesses and mail delivery in some towns and cities. Denver's airport was closed to all flights for 45 hours, stranding about 4,700 people at the airport one night.

Source: http://www.cnn.com/2006/WEATHER/12/28/severe.weather.ap/inde x.html

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### **DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information**

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